

Software Underground

Board Meeting

28 March 2023

Minutes are recorded in green.

Agenda

We will start at 15.00 UTC on Tuesday 28 March 2023. Quorum is 5.

Chair: The chair is Dieter.

Regrets: Matt, Jo

Present: Chance, Leo, Luisa, Dieter

Visiting: -

(There was no quorum, but we had a god chat for an hour 😊)

Previous meeting

Previous meeting minutes are on GitHub:

<https://github.com/softwareunderground/swung-org/blob/main/board>

Board

Last time we deferred the conversation about engaging the board in more explicit ways. We talked about how there seems to be 3 priority areas:

- Community: keeping Slack awesome is a priority.
- Events: TRANSFORM is next, meetups of all kinds could use encouragement. Field camp?
- Unjournal: a small band of enthusiasts exists already.

These should probably all form teams, with meetups of their own. Small meetups on a regular basis go a long way. Whenever we hold such things, we typically have 2 or 3 members spontaneously engage; a small team of 3 can do a lot.

How can the board catalyse these teams without burning people out?

Remarks:

- **This should maybe be a topic at the AGM. We feel that Swung has been in an identity crisis since the end of Covid, and we have to define our purpose. Maybe it is fine as it is, then we do not need board member roles. Or do we have clear goals/objectives? Then we need some energy and enthusiasm! Physical events would help to stir enthusiasm.**

AGM

AGM is on **Wednesday 26 April 15:00-17:00 UTC.**

We will need to decide soon if we are changing the make-up of the board. Matteo Niccoli has offered to step on to the board, but I think this is probably a standing offer we could take up now or later. I think others may feel the same, when the time comes.

We've talked in the past about how the board perhaps could be smaller, since the overall level of activity is fairly low. (We must have 5 board members, according to the current bylaw.)

A more pressing issue is that Matt and Brendon have been on the board for the maximum allowed term. If either one is to stay then there will need to be an official exception or a change to the bylaw. Either one could be voted on in the AGM.

Remarks:

- **Luisa thinks that she might not fit into Swung any longer -> geotechnics. As a group we think everyone fits in if they feel they do. It is about people.**

Any other business

None.

Remarks:

- **We should really think about physical events. It might be very small things. Like a local meetup, a meetup during a conference, or similar.**
- **Leo: What are people on swung for? Is this what we should focus on and can we make it better?**
 - **Q&A/Discussions**
 - **Network of friends and specialists**

- **Link Sharing**
- **DM's for knowledge sharing**

Parking lot / next meeting

These items will go into the next board meeting(s):

- We still need to update the tech spreadsheet:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1mNAGEgQNvfZem5zY38u9etn200aFWbE2zJLcMEdiL4Y/edit?usp=sharing>
- Check the status of receipt for Swung membership/donations (so it can potentially be deducted / charged to the employer like the membership of other professional societies).
- pyOpenSci is restarting and wants to work with SwUng. Leah Wasser is leading it and on SwUng.
- June 2023: check that the Slack switch-off of channel announcements was the right move.